

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DOTE-00 COME-00

XMB-07 CIEP-02 /157 R

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S/ S- O W. NEWLIN

S: LPBREMER

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R 260144 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078566

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, EG, IT

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR NEW SUEZ CANAL

1. DULLFORCE ARTICLE WASHINGTON POST APRIL 23 QUOTED
ROME' S IL MESSAGERO AND LONDON' S SUNDAY TELEGRAPH AS
REPORTING THAT PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI DURING RECENT
VISIT HERE DISCUSSED WITH USG PLAN TO BUILD NEW THREE
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BILLION DOLLAR CANAL EAST OF EXISTING SUEZ CANAL.
DULLFORCE CITES EGYPTIAN INFORMATION MINISTER GHALEB AS
SAYING HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SUCH PLAN.

2. IN ANSWER TO PRESS QUERIES APRIL 23 DEPARTMENT
SPOKESMAN DECLINED BE DRAWN INTO DETAILS US- ITALIAN
TALKS BUT SAID SUBJECT BUILDING NEW CANAL DID NOT RPT
NOT COME UP (TRANSCRIPT BY SEPTTEL).

3. FYI. AT NO POINT IN ANY OF ITALIAN- US DISCUSSIONS
WAS SUBJECT OF NEW CANAL RAISED. DURING CONVERSATION
WITH SECRETARY, FON MIN MEDICI, AS WE EXPECTED, SOUGHT
OUR REACTION TO SUGGESTION IN HIS LETTER TO SECRETARY
THAT CONSORTIUM OF WESTERN MEMBERS BE FORMED TO OFFER
EGYPT LARGE- SCALE ECONOMIC CEREMONY FOR BOTH CONSULATES SHOULD
BE
DEFERRED UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE PROPERTY LEASED BY THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR ITS CONSULATE IN KRAKOW IS
PREPARED FOR OCCUPANCY. ON THE BASIS OF ASSURANCES FROM
POLISH AUTHORITIES, IT IS UNDERSTOOD THIS WILL BE NOT
LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 1973. END TEXT

2. STOESEL POINTED OUT THE DECISION TO PERMIT THE POLES
TO OPEN INFORMALLY MAY 1 WAS TAKEN ON ITS OWN MERITS AND
PURSUANT TO OUR EXISTING COMMITMENT AND NOT RELATED TO ANY
OTHER BILATERAL PROBLEM-- OUR DISSATISFACTION WITH THE
POLISH PERFORMANCE IN THE ICCS. TRAMPCZYNSKI SAID HE
CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THE CONTEXT IN WHICH THIS DECISION WAS
REACHED, AND HE INDICATED THE POLISH INSTALLATION WOULD
OPEN ITS DOORS INFORMALLY AND PERFORM ITS FUNCTIONS WITH
A MINIMUM OF PUBLICITY.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES BEFORE
MAY 1 TO ENSURE THAT MFA UNDERSTANDS AND ACCEPTS POINT
MADE IN PARA 2 OF AIDE- MEMOIRE THAT PERMISSION TO OPEN
POLISH CONSULATE IN NEW YORK IS GRANTED ON THE UNDERSTAND-
ING THAT THE U. S. CONSUL AT KRAKOW MAY COMMENCE OPERATIONS
THERE AT ANY TIME AFTER MAY 1. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: ETRN, PFOR, EG, IT
To: BEIRUT
CAIRO
LONDON
MOSCOW
PARIS
ROME
TEL AVIV

USUN NEW YORK

Type: TE

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